

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Presently amended) A fluid separation centrifuge for the separation of particulate matter from a fluid, ~~said separation centrifuge including a rotor housing and a fluid separation device positioned within said rotor housing, wherein the improvement comprises~~ comprising:

a rotor housing including a housing wall; and

a base plate for a fluid separation device positioned within said rotor housing, wherein the improvement comprises:

~~said fluid separation device including~~ a base plate ~~which is~~ being designed and arranged with a peripheral lip formed with a generally cylindrical modified portion therein, said modified portion having a lateral cross sectional shape which is U-shaped; and

said rotor housing including a generally cylindrical projection spaced inwardly from said housing wall and which is designed and arranged to contact said modified portion so as to create a generally cylindrical sealed interface at the location of circumferential contact between said projection and said modified portion.

2. (canceled)

3. (presently amended) The fluid separation centrifuge of claim 2 1 wherein said rotor housing is fabricated out of plastic.

4. (original) The fluid separation centrifuge of claim 3 wherein said rotor assembly is designed and arranged as a disposable rotor assembly.

5. (original) The fluid separation centrifuge of claim 4 which further includes a sealing compound placed between said projection and said modified portion.

Claims 6-10 (canceled).

11. (Presently amended) A fluid separation centrifuge for the separation of particulate matter from a fluid, ~~said separation centrifuge including a rotor housing and a fluid separation device positioned within said rotor housing, wherein the improvement comprises~~ comprising:

a rotor housing including a housing wall; and

a support plate comprising one portion of said a fluid separation device positioned within said rotor housing wherein the improvement comprises;

said support plate defining an annular receiving channel having a lateral cross sectional shape which is U-shaped; and

a raised, substantially cylindrical projection comprising one portion of said rotor housing and being spaced inwardly from said housing wall, said cylindrical projection being received by said receiving channel with an interference fit for establishing a sealed interface between said projection and said receiving channel.

12. (canceled).

13. (Presently amended) The fluid separation centrifuge of claim ~~12~~ 11 wherein said rotor housing is fabricated out of plastic and said projection is in unitary construction with the remainder of said rotor housing.

14. (original) The fluid separation centrifuge of claim 13 wherein said rotor housing is designed and arranged as a disposable component.

15. (original) The fluid separation centrifuge of claim 14 which further includes a sealing compound placed between said projection and said receiving channel.

16. (original) The fluid separation centrifuge of claim 11 wherein said rotor housing is fabricated out of plastic and said projection is in unitary construction with the remainder of said rotor housing.

17. (original) The fluid separation centrifuge of claim 11 wherein said rotor housing is designed and arranged as a disposable component.

18. (original) The fluid separation centrifuge of claim 11 which further includes a sealing compound placed between said projection and said receiving channel.

19. (new) A fluid separation centrifuge for the separation of particulate matter from a fluid comprising:

a rotor housing including a housing wall; and

a base plate for a fluid separation device positioned within said rotor housing, wherein the improvement comprises:

said base plate being integral with a centertube and being designed and arranged with a peripheral lip formed with a generally cylindrical wall portion; and

said rotor housing including a generally cylindrical projection spaced inwardly from said housing wall and which is designed and arranged with an inside surface for contacting said wall portion so as to create a generally cylindrical sealed interface at the location of circumferential contact between said projection and said wall portion by a spin weld.

20. (new) A fluid separation centrifuge for the separation of particulate matter from a fluid comprising:

a rotor housing including a housing wall; and

a base plate for a fluid separation device positioned within said rotor housing, wherein the improvement comprises:

said base plate being integral with a centertube and being designed and arranged with a peripheral lip formed with a generally cylindrical wall portion; and

said rotor housing including a generally cylindrical projection spaced inwardly from said housing wall and which is designed and arranged with an inside surface for contacting said wall portion so as to create a generally cylindrical sealed interface at the location of circumferential contact between said projection and said wall portion by an interference fit.

21. (new) A fluid separation centrifuge for the separation of particulate matter from a fluid comprising:

a rotor housing including a housing wall; and

a base plate for a fluid separation device positioned within said rotor housing, wherein the improvement comprises:

said base plate being integral with a centertube and being designed and arranged with a peripheral lip formed with a generally cylindrical wall portion; and

said rotor housing including a generally cylindrical projection spaced inwardly from said housing wall and which is designed and arranged with an inside surface for contacting said wall portion so as to create a generally cylindrical sealed interface at the location of circumferential contact between said projection and said wall portion by the use of an adhesive.